

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of the Regular Board of Police Commissioners Meeting Thursday, September 1, 2005

The regular meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners was held on Thursday September 1, 2005, at 3:00 p.m., at Our Police Headquarters, 1300 Beaubien, Detroit, Michigan 48226.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present

Erminia Ramirez
Jim Holley
Willie Hampton
Arthur Blackwell II
Mohamed Okdie

Department Personnel Present

Chief Ella Bully-Cummings
AC Walter Martin
DC Chester Logan
DC George Hall Jr.
DC Ralph Godbee
DC Ronald Haddad
DC Robert Dunlap
DC Joyce Motley
DC James Tate
DC Deborah Robinson
Cmdr. Claudia Barden-Jackson
Cmdr. Marshall Lyons
Cmdr. Scott Kohls
Insp. John Autry
Insp. Hope Facen-Berry
Insp. Duane Mckissic
Insp. Tony Sanders
Insp. Walter Long
Insp. Fred McClure
Lt. John Serda
Lt. Gerald Hakins
Lt. Brain Stair

Board Staff Present

Dante' L. Goss, Executive Director
Lawana Ducker, Personnel Director
Denise R. Hooks, Attorney/Supervising Inv.

Arnold Sheard, Interim Chief Investigator
Anisley Cromwell, Supervising Inv.

OTHERS PRESENT

Ron Scott
Ms. Walters

RECORDERS

Terrence Bell
Robert Brown

1. CALL TO ORDER

Comm. Ramirez called the regular meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners to order at 3:15 p.m.

2. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

There was no report from the Chairperson.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Thursday, August 25, 2005

MOTION: **Comm. Blackwell** made the motion to approve the above Minutes.

SECOND: **Comm. Holley** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

5. SECRETARY'S REPORT – EXEC. DIR. GOSS

OFFICE CLOSING

The Board of Police Commissioners' Office and the Office of the Chief Investigator will be **CLOSED** on Monday, September 5, 2005,

for the Holiday. Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, September 6, 2005.

CITIZEN COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
2005 - Weekly Count of Complaints:	30	1020
2004 - Weekly Count of Complaints:	43	1139

- The Office of the Chief Investigator (OCI) closed a total of **0** cases this week.
- The Office of the Chief Investigator submitted **0** cases to the Chief's Office.
- The Chief's Office has reviewed and returned **0** cases to OCI.

6. REPORT/PRESENTATION-CHIEF OF POLICE

DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT

REPORT TO THE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS



BUILDING A SAFER DETROIT THROUGH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS.

The Detroit Police Department is committed to uphold its mission to provide a safe environment for our residents and businesses. This effort is not possible without the joint commitment of the community and the Police Department. We appreciate and value the role our citizens have played in helping us to take guns and drugs off the streets of the city of Detroit.

SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

THE NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT AND CONSPIRACY UNITS

During the period of August 22nd – August 28th, the Narcotics Enforcement and Conspiracy Units conducted 8 search warrants and 58 street enforcement actions within the boundaries of the city of Detroit, resulting in the following arrests and confiscations:

- ◆ 29 Felony arrests
 - ◆ 105 Misdemeanor arrests
 - ◆ 3 Juveniles detained
 - 922.8 Grams of cocaine, 3.9 grams of heroin, 359.2 grams of marijuana - street value **\$377,576.00**
 - ◆ **\$12,605.00** U.S. currency
- Confiscated:
- ◆ 5 Hand guns
 - ◆ 3 Vehicles

HOMICIDE SECTION

On August 27th, officers from the Homicide Section responded to the 18000 block of Revere on a "Shooting" run. An investigation revealed that while a woman was attempting to hang her wet laundry, her ex-boyfriend came over and started an argument. At some point the man went into the bedroom and retrieved a handgun from a locked box, approached the woman and fired one shot at point blank range striking her under the right eye. **The man was arrested without incident for "Murder – 1st Degree", "Felon in Possession of a Firearm", "Possession of Short Barreled Rifle", "Felony Firearm" and "Habitual Second Offense."** Confiscated were one (1) handgun and one (1) shotgun.

THE VIOLENT CRIMES TASK FORCE

On August 22nd, officers from the Violent Crimes Task Force, in a combined effort with officers from the 12th Precinct, received information as to the location of a man wanted in connection with a series of robberies committed by police impersonators. **An investigation revealed that in many of the cases three (3) men would dress up to impersonate police officers and conduct traffic stops. The men would flash fake badges and use real guns to rob motorists. As a result of their investigation the three (3) men were arrested without incident.**



Police/Community Intervention

TAKING THE GUNS OFF THE STREET !



Total Guns Confiscated
Year-To-Date
2,691

FIRST PRECINCT

On August 25th, officers of the 1st Precinct, while on patrol in the area of E. Lafayette and St. Antoine, were flagged down by an off duty officer who indicated that he just witnessed a man attempting to gain entry into a nightclub and that man was armed with a gun. The officers checked the area and observed the man attempting to leave the area in a vehicle. As a result of an investigation the man was arrested without incident for "Carrying Concealed Weapon – Person", "Felon In Possession", "Felony Firearm" and "Habitual 4th Offense." Confiscated were two (2) handguns.

FIFTH PRECINCT

On August 24th, officers of the 5th Precinct responded to the 15000 block of Mack Ave. on a "Breaking and Entering in Progress" run. An investigation revealed that the premises appeared to be secure from the ground level. However, with the assistance of the fire department a closer look revealed a large hole in the roof. Subsequent to an investigation one (1) man was arrested for "Breaking and Entering."

EIGHTH PRECINCT

On August 27th, officers of the 8th Precinct, while on patrol in the area of W. Seven Mile Rd. and Braile, observed two (2) men and one (1) woman loitering behind a closed business. As the officers approached to investigate they observed one (1) of the men smoking from a crack pipe. Further investigation resulted in the arrest of one (1) man for "Carrying Concealed Weapon – Person" and "Violation of Controlled Substance Act." Confiscated was one handgun.

TENTH PRECINCT

On August 24th, officers of the 10th Precinct responded to the area of Glendale and Lawton on a "Person in a Green Van has a Weapon" run. The officers immediately began checking the area and observed the vehicle traveling eastbound. The officers initiated a traffic stop and subsequent to an investigation one (1) man was arrested for "Violation of Controlled Substance Act", "Carrying Concealed Weapon – Person" and

"Vehicle Advisory." Confiscated was one (1) handgun, four (4) baggies of marijuana and one (1) stolen vehicle.

THIRTEENTH PRECINCT

On August 27th, officers of the 13th Precinct responded to the area of Woodward and King on a "Armed Robbery of a Citizen" run. The officers immediately conveyed a description of the wanted man to units in the area and as a result of their quick actions one (1) man was arrested for "Robbery Armed – Citizen." All of the citizen's property was returned.

Chief of Police Ella M. Bully-Cummings

7. PRESENTATION – DPD RESTRUCTURING PLAN

Chief Bully-Cummings gave the following PowerPoint presentation:

(SEE ATTACHMENT)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Comm. Holley asked the Chief what is going to happen to this building? How will this restructure affect the Headquarter?

Chief Bully-Cummings stated that it will continue to be Detroit Police Department.

Comm. Holley asked will this building have the same amount of coverage with the restructuring plan?

Chief Bully-Cummings stated that the focus of our restructuring plan is to make sure that we put the number of police officers that are needed in the districts. To ensure that we can meet the commitment that we made to the community. It's a work in progress, because once the districts become operational we are going to take a look at the actual number of police officers they have. If that means that we have to close other commands in the department to put those officers out in the streets, we will. It's very difficult for me today what will remain standing in this building.

Comm. Holley asked if you combine the Sixth Precinct with the Eighth Precinct, what will happen to the Commanders?

Chief Bully-Cummings stated that the district concept will include a Deputy Chief and two Commanders. Today we have a Commander and an Inspector at each precinct. Going forward a district will have a Deputy Chief and two Commanders.

Comm. Holley asked if I am a Commander at the Sixth Precinct and you pick the Commander from the Eighth Precinct does that mean I got demoted, because you can't have two commanding one district.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated that the restructuring includes a component to ensure that there is executive coverage all day long. We looked at our calls for service and most of the violent crimes occur on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays between the hours of 8 pm and 4 am. One component of the restructuring plan is to make sure there is executive coverage when the crime is high.

Comm. Holley stated when you bring people from behind the desk there is no fitness clause in the union contract.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated the union did not want that in the contract.

Comm. Holley asked how will they keep up with the officers who are currently on the streets.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated there will have to be some training for these officers.

Comm. Holley asked do you have to negotiate that with the union?

Chief Bully-Cummings stated no, I am not talking about physical training because we can't do that. There has got to be some responsibility of every member of this department. We all took an oath to become police officers. Just because you had an opportunity to take a desk job because of seniority did not negate the fact that you had to remain familiar with new laws and policies in this department, and be able to work the streets at any given time. We will provide some training as it relates to Crisnet, 800 mega hertz's there is a responsibility of every member to be ready to hit the streets.

Comm. Holley asked how will this affect the Consent Decree and will it save us money.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated it should save us some money. The voters passed a proposal last year that will allow the department to build a stand alone detention facility. The Monitor and the Department of Justice (DOJ) are still holding us to bringing the police precincts holding cell into compliance over

the next two years. By decommissioning these police precincts that have holding cells with crossbars, that mean we don't have to spend money in those facilities. It will help us save money there, but will it help us to get the Department of Justice out of our live sooner, those are things we will have to take a look at. We may have an opportunity to go back to the DOJ and have a conversation based on the decommissioning of these holding facilities with crossbars.

Chairperson Ramirez stated you now have six districts, and in each district you will have one Deputy Chief and two Commanders. That would mean that you will have to increase your Deputy Chiefs.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated yes ma'am. That's the request that I have before you today. Let me explain why, it is very apparent that there are some people who is very excited about going to the district concept and there are others saying that it won't work. You don't know it's not going to work. We have never done this before, give it a chance. One of the main things is to have accountability and leaders in place that will make sure that this district concept is successful. Even though there is a request in front of you to appoint some additional persons to executive rank, the end results is still a saving. If you take look at the number of command officers that we have today, even with the executive appointments there is a saving of approximately 3.2 million dollars. This has allowed us to keep some officers from being laid off.

Chairperson Ramirez stated that she is familiar with the district concept from the NACOLE conference. The mayor from Seattle and Pittsburg was speaking in about that concept. The concept is a good concept and some people are afraid of it because they don't understand it. If you get the message out to the officers and the citizens they will understand what the concept of districting is about. You are right when you mentioned that a lot of citizens feel that a building is the actual police department, and that they are being dispatched from the building. When we wanted to build the new precinct on Fort Street everyone wanted it to be centrally located. The scout cars are not in the building.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated I am glad you raise that, because that is something that I did not go into details. That is an issue, one of the chief's told me you will have people out there engaging in sabotage and scare tactics as it relates to the police facility. A police building does not protect people. You are absolutely right cars are not dispatched from the station. Today if you walk into a police station or call a police station and asked for a scout to go some place the officer has to pick up the telephone and dial 911. As a citizen of the City of Detroit I would rather have my officers on patrol. The building that are being decommissioned for patrol operations what we are going to do is find other police functions in buildings that we lease. We inherited some horrible leases that cost millions of dollars. As those leases expire we are going to put those

function into the police precincts. We want to make sure we don't leave a vacant building in the neighborhood.

Comm. Okdie stated he wanted to revisit Comm. Holley question about those officers who may come from behind a desk. Am I right in assuming not all officers behind desk are going to be put back on the streets? Do we still have some who will be doing clerical work is that correct.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated yes, there will be some clerks.

Comm. Okdie stated not everyone will be badged.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated that's correct. In the operations support component there are community relations officers, abandoned vehicle officers, environmental officers, time keeping officers, clerks. Because today we don't have the funding or the bodies to civilianize the positions we won through arbitration. Even though these are position in other police departments that civilians fill we can not fill them unless it has been won through arbitration.

Comm. Okdie stated that I will also be right in assuming that not every person behind a desk is out of shape.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated that's correct.

Comm. Blackwell stated that he wanted to congratulate the chief and the mayor and all those who were involved in putting this plan together. I also would like to congratulate the city council because without their actions even though people felt it was severe we would not be here today. I am excited for two reason, the people behind the desk have a chance to reintroduce themselves to the community that they serve. When you talk about a lot of the officers not living in the city, driving to a building and driving out to go home and not having any contact with the public that they serve. Now they get to ride around and reintroduce themselves. The other issue is for those who are not excited about this plan and the concept working that mean they are suggesting that the current plan is working. That not what I am hearing when I am in the community. With this opportunity you have a chance to take this department into the 21st century. The biggest thing for the general public there will be more officers out on the streets. I am glad the mayor made the decision not to layoff six hundred officers. Now they have come up with a new plan and we need to give it a chance to work. Also, I know this was not part of your presentation but the inadequate pay for starting officers but there is a plan for them to work as a police officer in another capacity in the City of Detroit.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated that's a new program that will be rolled out in 60 to 90 days.

Comm. Blackwell stated there is an issue on how to help officers who live in the city with the high cost of insurance and taxes. He stated to the Chief that he see nothing but great opportunities.

ACCEPT THE DEPARTMENT'S RESTRUCTURING PLAN

MOTION: **Comm. Blackwell** made the motion to accept the restructuring plan.

SECOND: **Comm. Ramirez** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

**APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT TO RANK OF ASSISTANT CHIEF
GEORGE HALL, Jr.**

MOTION: **Comm. Blackwell** made the motion to approve the appointment.

SECOND: **Comm. Holley** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT TO RANK OF DEPUTY CHIEF

CLAIDIA BARDEN-JACKSON
STACY BRACKENS
MARSHALL LYONS
BILLY McFARLEY
TONY SAUNDERS

MOTION: **Comm. Blackwell** made the motion to approve the appointment.

SECOND: **Comm. Holley** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT TO RANK OF COMMANDER

JOHN AUTREY **TODD BETTISON** **RICKY BROWN**

BRAIN DAVIS
JAMIE FIELDS
BENIJMAN LEE
DUANE McKISSIC
CRAIG SCHWARTZ
BRAIN STAIR

ERIC EWING
DENNIS FULTON
WALTER LONG
GREGORY PLUMMER
JOHN SERDA
JAMES TOLBERT

HOPE FACEN-BERRY
DWIGHT HUDSON
FREDRICK McCLURE
TROY QUINN
JAMES SUCHOSKI
GAIL WILSON-TURNER

MOTION: **Comm. Blackwell** made the motion to approve the appointments.

SECOND: **Comm. Holley** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated that all of the commands officers of the Police Department have a tremendous job in front of them. They were selected because of their level of skills, their commitment and their dedication to making sure that we can provide our citizens public safety and our officers with some comfort when it comes to their safety.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

Comm. Blackwell stated he did not know all of the details of the new plan for the officers to make extra income, but would like the chief to give some insight. Because at some point venues like the baseball and football will have to pay for police officers to secure these events. To give the citizens some insight on how she is planning to do this and what role she see the commissioners playing.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated a notice went out from the mayor's office to begin the conversations with the major venues in the city of Detroit. There are meetings scheduled in the coming weeks to sit down and have a discussion on that. The officers for a long time have been waiting for an opportunity to work off duty especially in security positions. A lot of our officers have second jobs today working for minimal wages in some cases. They will be getting their hourly rate. Under the current way of providing officers to cover special events in the city we have assume that cost. We are probably one of the few cities in the United States that have done this. This will give officers an opportunity to work off-duty and make a decent salary. There will be sufficient lead time we will not do this over-night. There was a rush to judgment in the newspaper yesterday it was never intended for the fireworks and Thanksgiving Parade. Those events are for the public and they are covered by the police department and there is no charge.

11. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, September 8, 2005 @ 6:30 p.m.
Calvary Presbyterian Church
19125 Greenview
Detroit, MI 48219

12. ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

Comm. Blackwell stated to the chief that it will be good to give a synopsis of the new plan at the community meeting.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated she was planning on giving one.

Comm. Blackwell stated that he would like to go record for this commission to send their support to all of the cities that was affected by the hurricane and if they can do anything within their rights to help.

MOTION: **Comm. Blackwell** made the motion to send a resolution.

SECOND: **Comm. Holley** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

O. Johnson stated I have two questions to ask. He asked the chief about officers that come from a desk job and write a report do they have to go back to the station.

Chief Bully-Cummings stated right now they have to. We are working the kinks out of our field reporting system. We have a pilot at one of the precincts and the information goes back to the precinct. It is not going back to the station as quickly as we need it.

Chairperson Ramirez asked what is your second question?

O. Johnson asked when can he expect some closure?

Chairperson Ramirez stated when you bring me the two tapes that you were referring to.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DANTE' L. GOSS
Executive Director
Board of Police Commissioners

DLG/rb